

Remember...

The facts about West Nile Virus from Texas Department of Health (TDH)

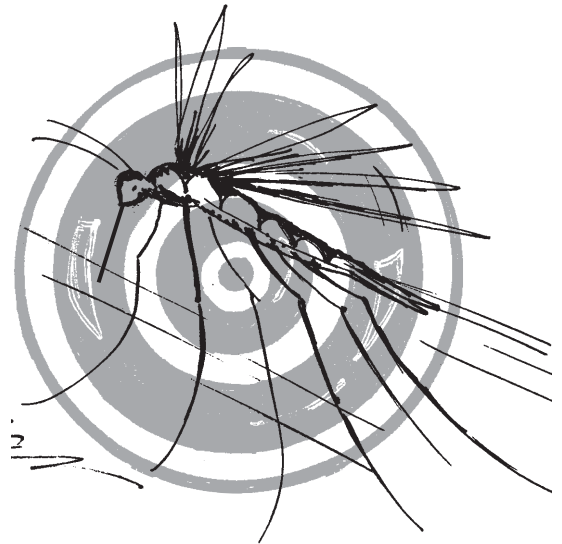
- Very few mosquitoes actually carry West Nile Virus
- Human illness from West Nile Virus is rare
- Less than 1% of those bitten by infected mosquitoes become severely ill
- Healthy individuals have mild, if any, symptoms
- The elderly and those with impaired immune systems are most susceptible
- Information on West Nile Virus in Texas: www.tdh.state.tx.us/zoonosis/diseases/Arboviral/westNile/

Reducing pesticide use protects human health and the environment!

- TDH promotes comprehensive, step-by-step mosquito control, Integrated Mosquito Management (IMM):
 - 1) surveillance by sampling
 - 2) reduction of breeding sites
 - 3) biological control
 - 4) larvicide standing water once a week
 - 5) as a last resort when disease is present, targeted pesticide application for adult mosquitoes
- “No pesticide is 100 percent safe”
Environmental Protection Agency
- Mosquitoes develop resistance to chemical pesticides
Cornell University
- For information on IMM, visit: www.tdh.state.tx.us/beh/gs/protex_2.doc

To receive a resource list
about less-toxic mosquito control, call
Community Associations of The Woodlands
281.210.3900

Targeting Mosquitoes



**What YOU can do
to target mosquitoes before
they become a problem!**

Information provided by:
Community Associations of The Woodlands
The Woodlands G.R.E.E.N.
Montgomery County Precinct 3

The safest and most effective mosquito control... **targets mosquitoes before they fly!**

"The reduction, elimination, or treatment of mosquito breeding areas is the best and most cost-effective technique for mosquito control."

Texas Department of Health

**1,000 mosquitoes a week
can be produced in
a 6" saucer or puddle of water!**

**Eliminate breeding sites
to reduce risk of disease...**

- ☐ **AVOID** overwatering landscape
- ☐ keep grass clippings out of storm drains
- ☐ empty containers and plant saucers
- ☐ change water in birdbaths twice a week
- ☐ change pet water daily
- ☐ remove trash and debris
- ☐ cut weeds and tall grass, especially in areas that stay wet
- ☐ clean clogged rain gutters and downspouts
- ☐ correct standing water by contouring landscape to facilitate drainage
- ☐ properly maintain pools, spas and pumps
- ☐ check for standing water on tarps, plastic covers and around air conditioners
- ☐ repair dripping faucets and leaky pipes

**Mosquitoes generally
remain within 100-200 feet
of their breeding site!**

"...when you do these small things that don't seem like very much, it is a lot, and your population of mosquitoes will decrease tremendously."
Texas Department of Health

Target mosquito larvae...

- ☐ keep balance in ponds and water gardens with natural predators or stock with mosquito fish (*Gambusia affinis*)
- ☐ if needed, treat ponds, ditches and standing water with *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis (bti)*, a bacterial larvicide that targets mosquitoes

Enjoy outside...

- ☐ avoid being out of doors at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active
- ☐ wear pants and long sleeves
- ☐ use fans to keep air moving on porches, decks and gazebos
- ☐ considering exposure time, choose least-toxic insect repellent, apply as labeled and remove as directed
- ☐ repair leaky butane and propane tanks on gas grills that attract mosquitoes

Welcome natural predators...

Learn how maintaining the balance of nature contributes to mosquito control!

- ☐ invite natural predators of mosquito larvae
tadpoles, crayfish, water scorpions, fish, damselfly naiads & dragonfly naiads
- ☐ invite predators of adult mosquitoes
hummingbirds, song birds, frogs, toads, bats, dragonflies & damselflies

